

Rugby & District Badminton Association

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT 8:08 PM 26th JUNE 2019 at DUNCHURCH SOCIAL CLUB

Attending

St Philips (Tracey Hope, Mark Hope, Roland Pollard), QDJC (None), Rugby Youth (John Wardropper), Hunters (Steve Turner), Lutterworth (Darren Hawes, Paul Hetherington), Trinity (Alex Cullen), Harris (None), RDBA (Simon Outhwaite).

1. Apologies

Bob Gale (Avon), Mark Martin (St Philips)

2. Minutes of last AGM

Last years minutes were agreed.

3. Matters Arising

None

4. Chairman's report

Mark welcomed everyone to the RDBA AGM FOR 2018 – 2019

He started by saying that the league continues to run itself.

The majority of emails are only to register new members, some regarding the website/sites. A couple to Simon Outhwaite re funds for the tournament.

The league scoring website has been excellent, everyone entering scores on time, so we are all up to date with league positions.

Britannic Tournament in March went smoothly, Congrats to Leslin, Ashlin, Anil and Gijo for winning group A. 3 of those players do not play in Rugby & District League. Mark has spoken with them many times, but they cannot commit to regular matches due to work schedules.

Group B was won by Vinay, Hegde, Neeraj and Joe from QDJC and all were “over the moon” to have won that group. Well Done.

There is another tournament arranged for September and we already have 60 players confirmed. Mark had been asked if a team in Leamington could play, but Mark is keen initially to fill with players in Rugby and Rugby League.

There have been no requests for rule changes for the coming season, so assume the same for next season.

Congrats to St Philips 1 for winning division 1, Trinity 2 for division 2 and St Philips 4 for division 3. As we do not have a presentation night, Mark presented Philips 1 and 4 with their trophies at the club AGM. Trinity 2 trophy was presented to Alex Cullen. Even though he didn't play a single game for them! They won the division on Rubbers, having scored the same points as Lutterworth 2.

League committee, Rob Fowler has chosen not to play badminton next season, so a position is available. Mark said that if asked to carry on next season, it will be his last. The chances are that he will not be around as much, so the commitment would not be the same. Mark went on to say that there needs to be some thought put into who is going to run the league and that given it runs smoothly, it not a difficult task.

Thanks to Darren for looking after the scoring system on the website and thanks to John W for maintaining the RDBA website too. Thanks to Simon for keeping the financial books in order. Thank You to all of you who run your own clubs, because without you, there wouldn't be an RDBA.

5. Treasurers report

Simon issued the income and expenditure sheet up to April 30th 2019. The only income for the year was the tournament and expenses were a fraction over income, but we finished the year with a bank balance of around £600. For a number of years, we haven't charged club or team fees and see no reason to do so at this time.

6. Club Reps Reports

St Philips: Chuffed that we won both division 1 and division 3. It's been a long time coming and hard work finally paid off for the top players.

The club has shrunk substantially with the loss of 12 players, including 4 of our top players, in Haggis, Treena, Emily and Fay, alongside Bobbie Hourigan, Pete Martin, Rob Fowler, Jon Stroud, Matthew Sirman, Joel Haines, Julian Fung, Pete Holland

We have gained 3 players, in return. Rahul, Gary Johnson and Santosh Gowda.

The good news, if that's what you could class it as, is that St Philips will be changing to feather shuttles in September, that decision was taken at last week's AGM. It is likely that they will be Yehlex tournament, but yet to be confirmed. Still a healthy club with 33 members, but are down to 7 ladies only so would be pulling teams out of Coventry. We may put a ladies team into Rugby knowing that if we are short of a lady, we can put a man into the team. The new team is only replacing an existing team as we have lost so many men players.

Lutterworth : Paul said that Lutterworth have had a good year.

Paul said they have a core of around 22 members, which is similar to the last 3 years.

There have been people join mid season and visitor numbers have been the highest ever.

There have been players from Trinity coming along, not to join but just to play. Lutterworth would still like more members so they are doing some marketing. Club night is down to 3 courts rather than the 4 courts available. The only time they would use 4 courts is when there is a match on the same night. There is a new management company looking after the hall now and they seem to understand a bit more about sport! They are in discussion regarding the hall floor, which has been an issue for over 2 years. Already there is a cleaning process in place which hasn't been there before. The aim is to try to get them to re-lacquer the floor. Paul has obtained some quotes for re-lacquering the floor and it is "astronomical" Lighting has been fixed, holes in the floor have been filled, so a good improvement, but still more to do.

On the Britannic Tournament, we really enjoyed getting a team into it and we look forward to the next one, we should have 3 teams. Thanks to the team for organising. Lutterworth 1st team are trialling feather shuttles.

An administrative challenge is collecting match fees. Any ideas from other clubs would be helpful.

Membership fees, currently at £115 with a £4 match fee. Hall costs around £7-30 per court per hour.

Darren said that the teams were a lot more consistent across the whole 3 teams this year, last year they struggled. Each team had their core players, and the 2nd team only missed out by rubbers on winning the division. 3rd team improving through the year.

Hunters: Steve Turner said that they have suffered a "bit of mediocrity" this year and Steve hadn't realised how poorly their 1st team had been doing in Rugby and had slipped to mid table. They had put all of their effort into the Coventry 1st team. They still have about 25 members with well attended club nights and quite a few guests. There has been an increase in Ladies coming along too. It's possible some have come from Daventry as their clubs are closing. They will be doing some recruitment over the summer months. They are potentially losing a couple of their top players. It is thought that Jeremy is moving away and Isaac is going to Monsoon.

Harris: There was no representative from Harris.

Avon. Bob Gale sent his apologies, so no report this time.

QDJC: There was no representative from QDJC.

Juniors/Rugby Youth: John said that they still get about 90 kids on a Saturday morning across 4 sessions and there is still a waiting list of about 30. We had 11 attend county squad this year, across all age groups. It will go down next year because the county are reducing numbers. Still having problems trying to get the older ones to join adult clubs. Maybe only 5 have moved into adult clubs, including St Philips and QDJC. The league team finished mid table this year, however we will not be entering a team next year. The under 14 and under 18 teams this year didn't manage to win the Coventry Tournaments as the competition is getting stronger. We only got silver.

The RDBA website has not been updated since February so it's starting to look like it's not really relevant to Rugby Badminton. If it's not going to be maintained, then maybe we should try to link everything into the League Republic site. If you search for Rugby Badminton, the old site always comes up first. We pay for the domain rugbybadminton.org, and maybe this could be linked to the league republic site. It was agreed that it would be better if there was only one website. If someone was going to maintain the site, they need the time and commitment to do it. It seems that the general badminton website needs to give people the clubs, the days they play, the times and where they play. The scoring site doesn't make it clear that it's badminton in Rugby. Jon Russell still has the hosting site in his name. Steve T asked how often is the RDBA website updated. It seems that it isn't on anyone's agenda to do it. There is no "facebook" page for the RDBA. Lutterworth have a "facebook" page which is just their poster. Steve said that they generate a lot of interest through Hunters own website. Paul H said that it shouldn't take too long to update websites when you have the hang of it and he would be happy to update the league site. If there is going to be regular updates to the site, then all clubs need to contribute to allow an update. All of the information that Alan Turner had put together, specifically historical information is now on the league republic site under "documents" "history" where you can view/download excel spreadsheets. The RDBA website does contain recent results from tournaments which are quite useful.

Trinity: Alex said they had 3 teams in last year, 1st team captained by Darren Moore, Alex will be taking that over next year. Mixed results for 2nd and 3rd teams, as we had been experimenting with the 2nd team, but for next year team 2 is likely to be a ladies team. It was mentioned at their AGM that there was a lack of games for their ladies. The club has around 30 members. Nice to see that other clubs are experimenting or using feather shuttles.

7. Election of Officers

League Chairman	Mark Hope
League Secretary	Mark Hope
League Treasurer	Simon Outhwaite
Junior Secretary	John Wardropper
Match Secretary	Darren Hawes
Committee Member	

8. Leagues for 2019 - 2020

Mark raised the issue of “whipping boys of division 1” and asked if division 1 should consist only of 4 teams, those being Lutterworth, Hunters, Trinity and St Philips, as it seems the gap in standard between anyone’s 1st teams and 2nd teams was too great to compete in division 1.

(there was a lot of discussion around this point, too much to minute)

The consensus was that we should leave the division quantities as it is, as a 2nd team would like the idea of trying to beat a 1st team. Steve said that Hunters may be looking to put another team into the league, but would confirm at a later date.

Proposed leagues for next season, based on last season’s results.

DIV 1: TRINITY 1, ST PHILIPS 1, LUTTERWORTH 1, ST PHILIPS 2, LUTTERWORTH 2, HUNTERS 1.

DIV 2: AVON, ST PHILIPS 3, ST PHILIPS 4, HUNTERS 2, QDJC 1, HUNTERS 3.

DIV 3: HUNTERS 4, TRINITY 2, LUTTERWORTH 3, ST PHILIPS 5, QDJC 2, HARRIS 1.

The fixtures meeting has been fixed as Wednesday 18th Sept 2019 at 8pm at the Dunchurch Social Club.

9. Any Other Business

Steve T asked if there were any players within the Rugby league who may be interested in playing in Coventry, please let Steve know as he may be able to strengthen Hunters team as they are losing Jeremy. It was mentioned that QDJC may be pulling their mixed team out of Coventry, but not sure if that was due to shortage of ladies.

Match fees, St Philips said that match fees must be collected by team captains and handed into the club treasurer, in a timely manner and must be the full amount.

Hunters have a match book printed and the back sheet shows collected fees and signed when monies handed over to the treasurer. Simon said there are websites where you can sign in and pay your fees online so the fees are easy to view who’s paid. Fees should be receipted.

Meeting closed at 9-25pm.